

Message Text

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13

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ISO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 L-03 H-03 SS-20

NSC-10 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 NIC-01 DRC-01 IO-14

/143 W

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R 051405Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6972

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PEKING

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRAN CH FI

SUBJECT: PRC-FINNISH AIR AGREEMENT

REF: HELSINKI 2978; PEKING 1552

1. HEAD OF THREE-MAN FINNISH DELEGATION TO PRC, ULF-ERIK SLOTTE OF FONOFF, CONFIRMED ACCURACY OF CONTENTS OF PRESS REPORTS IN REFTEL. SAID VISIT WAS EXPLORATORY AND INTENDED TO FORM BASIS FOR FUTURE NEGOTIATIONS; THESE OBJECTIVES WERE ATTAINED. PRC IS SCHEDULED TO DRAW UP LANGUAGE FOR AIR AGREEMENT AND EXCHANGE VIEWS THROUGH DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS. THERE IS UNDERSTANDING THAT NEGOTIATIONS WILL BE OPENED NEXT YEAR BUT NO TIME FRAME OR VENUE HAS BEEN DECIDED, THOUGH TALKS ARE MORE LIKELY TO BE IN PEKING SINCE THIS WOULD FACILITATE TALKS. SLOTTE GAINED IMPRESSION PRC WERE SERIOUS IN THEIR INTEREST IN EXPANDING AIRLINE CONTACTS AND SYSTEM. FAILURE TO SET TIME FOR FINNISH
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NEGOTIATIONS APPEARED TO BE BECAUSE OF SCHEDULED PRC

TALKS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES. HE INDICATED TALKS WITH TOKYO AND MOSCOW WOULD FOLLOW BUT HAD NO COMMENTS ON LIKELY OUTCOME.

2. KAARLO J. TEMMES, DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF NATIONAL AVIATION BOARD, WHO ACCOMPANIED DELEGATION IN SEPARATE COMMUNICATION SUBSTANTIATED COMMENTS OF SLOTTE AND ADDED THAT PRC APPEARS TO BE INTERESTED IN EXPANDIZD BOTH DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS. NOTED THAT PRC AIR AGREEMENT TALKS WITH SWITZERLAND APPEARED TO HAVE BEEN ABOUT COMPLETED. PRC ALSO REPORTEDLY IS CARRYING OUT STUDIES ON ICAO ORGANIZATION AND ACTIVITIES. ON PRESS REPORTS THAT FINNAIR HOPES TO BEGIN FLIGHTS TO TOKYO IN 1975 OR 1976, TEMMES SAID ACTUAL COMPLETION OF AIR TALKS AND COMMENCING OF AIR SERVICE ARE SOMETHING FOR LONG-RANGE FUTURE. HE MINIMIZED SIGNIFICANCE OF ABOVE DATES AND COMMENTED THAT THE ECONOMICS OF SUCH A SERVICE MUST BE CONSIDERED.

3. COMMENTS. FOR FINNISH DELEGATES THIS WAS THEIR FIRST VISIT TO PEKING AND THEY COULD NOT MAKE COMPARISONS BUT WERE PLEASED WITH CLEANLINESS OF HOTEL ROOMS, FRIENDLINESS OF PEOPLE, AND GENERAL TREATMENT ACCORDED BY PRC OFFICIALS.
KREHBIEL

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: morefirh
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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